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Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 31 | Min 22 | Humidity 86% Partly cloudy sky with one or two spells of rain Sensex 77,478 | Nifty 23,567 | Gold 72,440 | Silver 92,750 | Dollar 83.65 | Euro 89.76 | GBP 106.12

CITY / PAGE 5

SAY CHEERS

Excise department rakes in moolah with unprecedented sales of beer in April and May this year

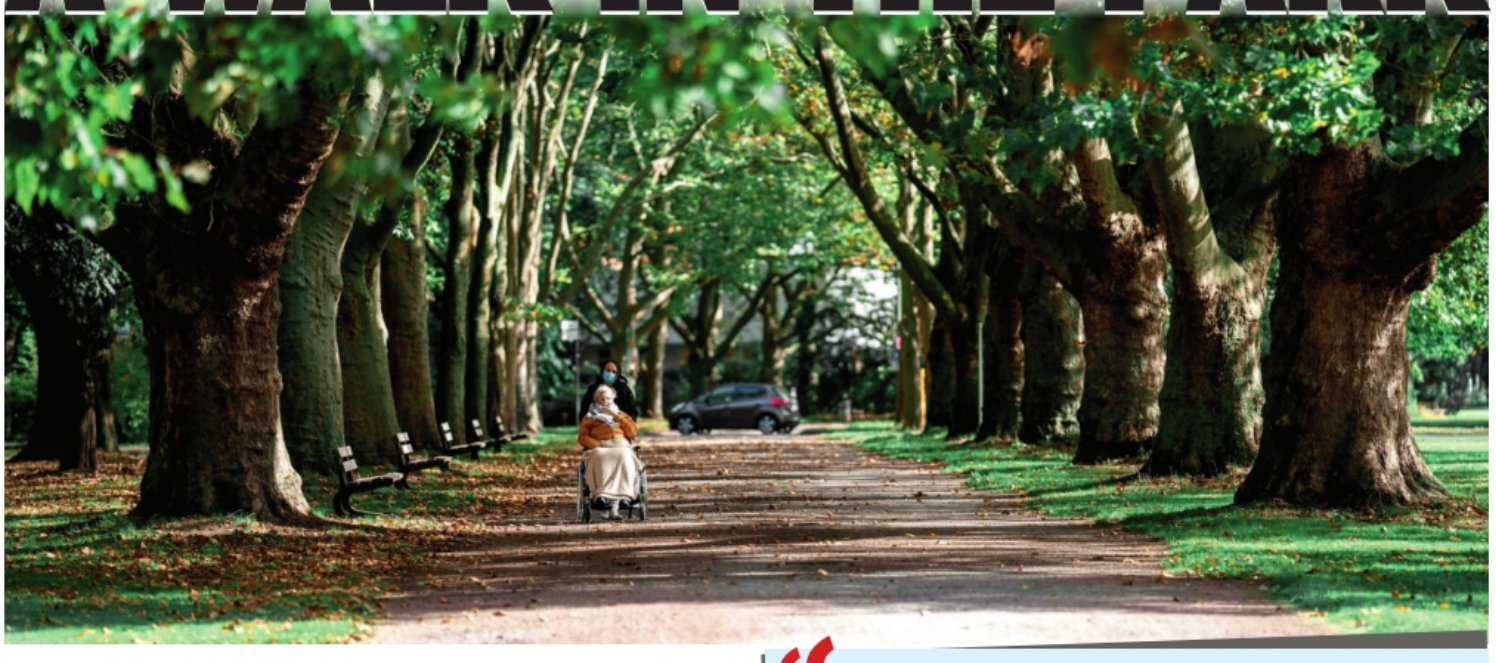
CITY / PAGE 6

DENT ON ROAD

BBMP's self imposed deadline of June 4 to fill up potholes is long gone, but roads yet to be repaired

People with disabilities, activists tell BM how most parks in city are inaccessible and some have poorly designed amenities that make them unusable

INCLUSIVENESS, NOT A WALK IN THE PARK



All kinds of disabilities must be kept in mind while designing parks

Rachana Ramesh
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

While a large section of residents in the city rejoiced on the decision to allow parks under the municipal body to operate between 5 am to 10 pm without any restrictions, those with disabilities have pointed out that the green spaces still largely remain inaccessible to them. Activists and disabled persons Bangalore Mirror spoke to said that inclusion must be made a priority in design for public spaces such as parks by urban local bodies (ULBs) as informal socialisation is an important aspect of development, especially among children.

A wheelchair user said that entrances to various parks have stairs, making it inaccessible for them to even enter, let alone use any of the amenities available inside. "Parks are one of the few places that allow us to connect free of cost. It is important for us to be able to access them. Even when there are arrangements such as ramps, many times, they are not designed scientifically, serving no purpose," she said. She added that all kinds of disabilities must be taken into consideration in order to make the park truly inclusive.

> **"Play is informal socialisation and recreation where kids are not judged for their ability. If this is denied in public parks, it impacts interaction and learning of social skills, including communication and self confidence** –Anita Iyer Narayan, disability rights advocate

For children

In 2022, a disabled-friendly park was inaugurated in Jawaharlal Bal Bhavan (JBB) at Cubbon Park in

CONTINUED ON PAGE 8 »

Street light poles are secure

Traffic police have no better place to store wheel clamps used to lock vehicles in no-parking zones?

Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

It was a strange sight to spot wheel clamps that are used to lock vehicles parked in no-parking zones clamped around street light poles on Dr BR Ambedkar Road near Visvesvaraya Towers. The road is known as one of the busy roads and also known for VIP movement. Pedestrians, who saw the clamps, say the Cubbon Park police must make arrangements to get them removed. The clamps don't really obstruct pedestrians along Dr BR Ambedkar Road, but it is the misuse that catches people's eye.

"The traffic police should know how, when and why they have to use the wheel clamps. It is absurd that wheel clamps are placed around the street light poles," said Prof MN Srihari, a traffic expert.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 Clown play

Immerse yourself in a whimsical world where laughter reigns supreme with "The Dream Factory," a musical Clown Theatre Production. Through a captivating blend of dark humour, slapstick comedy, and poignant honesty, the play explores a timeless theme of balancing dreams with life's struggles, as seen through a clown's perspective, and takes the audience on a musical ride through the absurdities of life, as seen by clowns. **Where: Bangalore International Centre**
When: June 22, 7:30 pm

02 Country-style tunes

Vibe to the melodic tunes of Jayanand, a singer-songwriter based out of Bengaluru, at Friday Night Unplugged@ Urban Solace. From exploring guitar tunes to discovering his passion for the instrument and writing songs, Jayanand has come a long way. He specialises in gospel and country-style music and plays at restaurants and open mics across Bengaluru. **Where: Urban Solace, Ulsoor**
When: June 21, 7 pm onwards

03 Fantasy land

Ever wondered what to tell a child who wants to meet a real princess? Join Ruhi on her quest to find a real princess with a story telling session on "Ruhi Finds Her Princess" by Reshma Bachwani and meet Anaahat Paritosh, the child who illustrated the book. The story inspires both adults and children that no dream is too big to achieve. **Where: Atta Galatta, Indiranagar**
When: June 22, 3 pm

Quality check: 43,840 vials found 'not of standard quality'

Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences commissioner directs pharmaceutical company to send fresh stock within 30 days

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Seeking replacement of 43,840 vials procured for veterinary use that were found to be of substandard quality, the commissioner of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Sciences (AHVS) has drafted a letter to Himalaya Meditek Private Limited, who had previously supplied these vials to veterinary clinics and hospitals situated in 28 districts of Karnataka.

In a letter dated June 10, 2024, the commissioner has instructed the company to provide fresh stock of 43,840 vials of 'Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate Injection 4g/ml 5ml, RC Code TR-190' of standard quality within 30 days to the below-mentioned districts. "The same batch of drugs is declared as 'not of standard quality' as stated in the government analyst vide test report dated May 20, 2024," read the letter. This injection is often used in small animals when oral treatment with prednisone is not possible. It is also used as a diagnostic test of adrenal function and to treat inflammatory conditions in large animals.

Supply of vials

According to the commissioner's letter, the count of replaced vials to be sent to veterinary clinics and hospitals in the districts includes: 1,000 to Bagalkot, 1,500 to Bellary, 1,000 vials to Bengaluru Urban, 5,000 vials to Belagavi, 11,848 vials to Bidar, 151 vials to Chamarajanagar, 1,600 vials to Chikkaballapura, 225 vials to Chikmagalur, 1,000 vials to Chitradurga, 150 to Davangere, 200 to Dharward, 525 to Gadag, 2,250 to Hassan, 1,000 to Haveri, 1,000 to Kodagu, 1,417 to Kolar, 875 to Koppal, 1,754 to Mandya, 1,001 to Mysuru, 350 to Raichur, 994 to Tumkur, 1,000 to Udupi, 600 to Uttara Kannada, 1,200 to Vijayanagara, 4,200 to Vijayapura, and 2,000 to Yadgir.

Quality concerns

When contacted, the commissioner refused to share the details over the phone. Meanwhile, animal activists were shocked and expressed their concerns over the supply of these substandard vials. "I want the state government to blacklist the company for supplying the substandard vials. These types of unfortunate incidents are taking place at frequent intervals. I want the authorities to ban Meditek Private Limited, which allegedly supplied substandard vials," said Joseph Hoover, an animal activist. On a similar note, Arun Prasad, an animal activist, wondered who would be responsible for the health of animals that were given these substandard vials. "I do not know why the authorities concerned failed to test the quality of medicines before sending them to various veterinary clinics and hospitals across the state," said Prasad.

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

'Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate Injection is a steroid with wide-ranging uses. Its substandard quality has now put thousands of animals at risk. An inquiry must be conducted into the whole sordid issue'

Describing the incident as a shocking and unacceptable lapse on the part of the commissioner and director of AHVS, Nevina Kamath, an animal activist, wondered why the quality check wasn't done before disbursal. "This injection is a steroid with wide-ranging uses and has put thousands of animals at risk as a result of its substandard quality. Is the department trying experiments on mute animals at the cost of their health and at the cost of the poor innocent farmers? The officials responsible must be suspended for gross negligence, and an inquiry should be conducted into the whole sordid issue," Kamath added.

Domestic workers raise their voice, hold 'application protest'

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The Domestic Workers Rights Union held an 'application protest' on Wednesday at the labour department office, where close to 300 members of the union submitted applications for Smart Cards provided to unorganised sector workers.

The move was also carried out in order to make a statement in light of International Domestic Workers' Day, which was on June 16. "Despite their (domestic workers') visible contributions and role in the care economy that enables households to function, they are often considered invisible and relegated to the shadows. No ruling party, political entity, or social class acknowledges them. Their importance is only recognised in their absence, and even then, only in hushed tones. Despite International Labour Organisation conventions, various private bills, and numerous promises, no legislative framework exists to protect them. As women and workers, they are subjugated to the feudal attitudes of their employers and society," the union said in a statement. They demanded the ratification of the C189 convention to facilitate the enactment of national legislation, the establishment of a Domestic Workers Taskforce with a dedicated helpline to address instances of inhumane treatment by employers and resident welfare associations (RWAs), the grant of constitutional rights to their safety, health, and social protection through the establishment of a grievance redressal mechanism, and the immediate setup of a Domestic Workers Welfare Board comprising domestic workers and their unions.

Domestic workers stage a protest at Karmika Bhavana on Wednesday

The union has also called for the constitution of tripartite boards for domestic workers to regulate employment, wages, and working conditions, including safety, occupational health, and social security. Among other demands is immediate, stringent action against agencies, employers involved in the trafficking of domestic workers, and their exploitation. They have called for the placement agency control act to be enacted with the assistance of unions and workers. The guidelines on trafficking issued by the High Court of Karnataka in 2015 need to be implemented, they stressed. In the context of the ongoing Prajwal Revanna case, the union said that it stands in solidarity with all organisations advocating for justice and added, "Fearing threats and loss of jobs, the workers do not complain against these actions. Legal and judicial biases often prevent perpetrators from facing appropriate consequences. The exposure of this scandal has sparked widespread outrage, disrupting women's lives and leading some to attempt suicide." The union highlighted the grievances faced by the community, provided suggestions to improve the current state, and noted that the norms of the Local Committee (LC) under the Prevention of Sexual Harassment (POSH) Act need to be revised. It called for RWAs and employers to be held responsible when instances of sexual harassment occur and for the women's commission to mandate these entities to report such cases promptly. Victims of sexual assault must receive legal aid and protection to pursue justice, it added.

Find your dream plot or house at VK Property Expo

Now, achieving your dream of owning a house or land is within reach with the VK Property Expo! With prices starting at Rs 6 lakh for residential plots and Rs 20 lakh for apartments, this expo is a golden opportunity for everyone longing for their ideal property. Featuring 20 renowned real estate giants, builders, and developers, this event promises exclusive discounts and a showcase of impeccable projects. These trusted companies are known for their quality and will guide visitors through detailed project information and layouts, empowering them to make savvy investment choices.

Mark your calendars for June 22 and 23 as Vijay Karnataka presents the "VK Property Expo-2024" at Chandra Sagar Kalyana Mahal in Jayanagar. This exciting event will unite esteemed real estate developers, builders, and property dealers, offering a diverse range of residential and commercial properties, such as apartments, flats, and plots, at competitive rates.

The VK Property Expo-2024 promises a supportive environment with a plethora of property options, exclusive discounts, and convenient financing solutions.

Visitors can take advantage of spot registration and hassle-free home loan facilities from leading banks, making property registration and financing convenient. Special discounts from builders and developers will further sweeten the deal, making this expo a must-visit for prospective real estate investors. Attendees will have the unique opportunity to interact directly with industry experts, clearing any doubts they may have regarding property investment.

Expert guidance and information will be readily available to assist buyers in navigating the complexities of property purchasing. In addition to property showcases, the expo will feature enlightening seminars and interactive sessions with industry leaders, offering valuable insights into market trends and investment strategies. Attendees will gain a comprehensive understanding of the real estate sector, empowering them to make informed decisions.

Get a chance to interact directly with industry experts. Get hassle-free home loan facilities & valuable insights into trends, investment strategies in real estate

Moreover, the expo aims to create a community of informed buyers and sellers, facilitating networking opportunities for participants to share experiences and gain valuable advice. Don't miss out on this collaborative environment designed to empower attendees in their journey towards property ownership.

The expo will be held at Chandra Sagar Kalyana Mahal, 2nd Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru, on June 22 and 23, from 10 am to 6 pm. Entry is free. For more details, contact: 9164272060, 9880115666.

THE TIMES GROUP

ASHWASURYA REALITIES FOR TRUST AND VALUE Presents

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22nd-23rd JUNE 2024

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BangaloreMirror

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TIME: 10.00 AM TO 6.00 PM

VBHC | DS MAX | Sweet Home Realty | ANATHI GROUP | SHETTY AND SHETTY CONSTRUCTIONS AND HOUSING | KNS INFRA | Sharanya Farms & Resorts | Sapthagiri | PHC PARIWAR | JANASENA PROPERTIES PVT LTD

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NGT puts brakes on BBMP's pipe project

Digging and installing pipes in areas near Yelahanka–Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve and Lake are on hold awaiting necessary permissions

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has ordered the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) to halt all activities involving the digging up of earth and pipe installations, including hume pipes, in the reserved areas around the Yelahanka-Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve and Lake. BBMP must obtain the necessary permissions from the concerned authorities before resuming any such activities.

A few weeks ago, construction began on a Rajakaluve to link Attur Lake and Yelahanka Puttenahalli Lake. Initially built by BBMP last year, the project stalled due to obstructing apartment construction. The incomplete Rajakaluve lay dry for a year without action. Recently, walkers observed sewage entering the channel, raising concerns among members about its impact on the lake.

Due to recent rains, sewage overflowed from the Rajakaluve channel into nearby homes. This prompted the government to plan to lay pipelines beneath the lake's walk path without proper approval, sparking public opposition. After the initial delay, BBMP started excavating the walkway for pipeline installation, prompting Yelahanka-Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve and Lake members to approach the NGT.

The NGT order stated that BBMP had illegally begun digging up the earth and installing large hume pipes in the reserved area without obtaining permission from the authorities concerned. As a result of this activity, sewage water started flowing into the lake, leading to water pollution and impacting aquatic biodiversity.

The order stated. "In the view of the urgency explained in the application, the case has been listed before this vacation Bench.4. Learned Counsel for the applicant has submitted that respondent no.2 (BBMP) be restrained till decision of the original application from carrying out any activity for digging up of earth and laying of pipeline including hume pipes within the reserved area without permission from the concerned authorities and also from discharging sewage into the lake."

Pipes being installed near Yelahanka–Puttenahalli Bird Conservation Reserve and lake

The order added, "Mr Prahalad, Engineer-in-Chief, BBMP, who appeared through video conference, has stated that due to heavy floods on 22.05.2024, sewage was mixed with the stormwater drain and part of it entered into the Yelahanka – Puttenahalli Lake, as alleged by the applicant. However, the committee comprising representatives from BBMP, BWSSB and other departments have examined the issue and it was decided to form a diversion canal to carry the sewage, even in case of an exigency, to allocation which is downstream of the Yelahanka – Puttenahalli Lake to ensure that no sewage enters the Yelahanka – Puttenahalli Lake and Bird Conservation Reserve. It is also assured that measures have been taken to stop the entry of sewage into the lake and currently the sewage is not entering the lake. The Engineer-in-Chief has also stated that in the existing Rajakaluve which carries the flood water from the upstream tank areas and catchment, a hume pipe is being laid for guiding the stormwater into the lake without mixing of sewage."

F. No. BAN/LANDS/113/E-AUC/AF/I
Defence Estates Office, Karnataka Circle
K. Kamaraj Road, Bangalore - 560 042. Ph: 080-25367213

E- AUCTION NOTICE

The intending bidders are invited to participate the E-Auction for cutting and removal of 225 nos. of different trees at **Air Force Station Jalahalli, Bangalore** will be conducted through E-Auction portal **(www.eauction.gov.in) on 02.07.2024 between 1200 hours on 1700 hours.**
The intending bidders are requested to visit the above - mentioned E-Auction website and follow the instructions for creating/ registering profile for bidding. Terms and conditions of the sale are available in the Public Auction Notice. The participants may download the same from the website mentioned above and submit a Demand Draft/Banker's Cheque for **Rs. 60,000/- (Rupees Sixty Thousand only)** in favors of **Defence Estates Officer, Karnataka Circle, Bangalore** as Earnest Money Deposit to this office for participating the auction on or before **01.07.2024 By 1300 hours,** failing which they will not be allowed to participate in the auction. Bid auto extension will be 10 minutes.
BAN/LANDS/113/E-AUC/AF/I/93
Station: Bangalore. **Sd/- Defence Estates Officer**
Dated: 19 June, 2024 **Karnataka Circle Bangalore.**

IN THE COURT OF CIVIL JUDGE: SENIOR DIVISION CAPITAL COMPLEX AT YUPIA, DISTRICT PAPUMPARE: ARUNACHAL PRADESH
(Under Order-V, Rule 20 (1A) of C.P.C, 1908)
Money Suit No. 20/2024
Smti. Ha Yani ...PLAINTIFF
-Versus-
Golden Ticket Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. & Ors ...DEFENDANTS

NOTICE

TO,
1. Golden Ticket Consultancy Pvt. Ltd.
Registered address at: No.37, 19th Main, 43rd Cross, 5th Block 669P, HBR Layout, Bangalore, Karnataka, India-560043
2. Shri. Nisith Murthy
Director of Golden Ticket Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. Registered address at:37, 19th Main, 43rd Cross, 5th Block669P, HBR Layout Bangalore, Karnataka, India-560043
3. Diana Nathan Arokaya
Director of Golden Ticket Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. Registered Address at: No.37, 19th Main, 43rd Cross, 5th Block669P, HBR Layout ,Bangalore, Karnataka, India-560043
4. Algo Consultancy Service Pvt Ltd.
Address: AMG Tower, HBR Layout, near BDA Complex, Bangalore, Karnataka-560043 Through its CMD Mr. Ashok Sangani.
Whereas, the above-named Plaintiff has Instituted a Money Suit case no. 20/2024, against you for recovery of Rs.9,80,85,600/- (Rupees Nine Crore Eighty Lakhs Eighty-Five Thousand and Six Hundred Only). Therefore you are hereby directed to appear before this Hon'ble court in person or through by a pleader duly authorized by you to answer the material facts/evidence or to file WS (if any) which is fixed on17.07.2024 at 10:30 AM.Given under my hand and seal of the court on this 15th day of May, 2024.
By Order
Sd/- Sheristadar
O/o Civil Judge (Sr, Division)
Capital Complex, Yupia (AP)

PUBLIC NOTICE
IN THE SUPREME COURT OF INDIA
EXTRA-ORDINARY APPELLATE JURISDICTION
SPECIAL LEAVE PETITION (CIVIL) No(s) 2841-2842 OF 2021
WITH PRAYER FOR INTERIM RELIEF WITH
HANUMANTHARAJU B (DEAD) ..... PETITIONER(S) / APPELLANT(S)
VERSUS
M AKRAM PASHA AND ANOTHER .....RESPONDENT(S)

To,
1 M AKRAM PASHA, **PID: 79237/2024 FOR**
OWNER OF THE OMNI CAR NO. 9, **COMMON R[1] IN**
6TH CROSS, BRINDAVAN NAGAR, **SLP(C) . 2841/2021**
MATHIKERE, DISTRICT-BANGALORE, KARNATAKA- 560054 **AND R[2] SLP(C) NO. 2842/2021 (SEC IV-A)**

2. AZMATHULLA, **PID: 79238/2024 FOR**
OWNER OF KARNATAKA TRADING **R[3] IN**
CORPORATION MASJID E JAMIYA **SLP(C) NO. 2842/2021**
COMPLEX A.C. POST, HEGDENAGAR, **(SEC IV-A)**
DISTRICT-BANGALORE, KARNATAKA

WHEREAS the Petitions for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for **CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING** above mentioned (copy enclosed) filed in the Registry by **Mr. HETU ARORA SETHI,** Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named was listed for hearing before this Court on **12th February, 2021,** when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

"The Court is convened through Video Conferencing. Heard learned counsel appearing for the petitioner claimant. Delay condoned. Issue notice."

AND WHEREAS the Petitions for Special Leave to Appeal with prayer for interim relief along with application for **CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING, SUBSTITUTED SERVICE, APPLICATION FOR SUBSTITUTION, APPLICATION**

FOR ABATEMENT, APPLICATION FOR CONDONATION OF DELAY IN FILING THE APPLICATION FOR SETTING ASIDE THE ABATEMENT above mentioned filed in the Registry by **Ms. HETU ARORA SETHI,** Advocate on behalf of the Petitioner(s) above named was listed for hearing before the **Hon'ble Court (In Chambers) on 14th February, 2024,** when the Court was pleased to pass the following order:-

"Delay condoned. Abatement is set aside. Application for substitution and applications for substituted service by way of paper publication are allowed. Cause title be amended accordingly.

NOW, THEREFORE, TAKE NOTICE that the above petitions with prayer for interim relief will be posted for hearing before this Court in due course and you may enter appearance before this Court either in person or through an advocate on record of this Court duly appointed by you in that behalf within 30 days from the date of service of notice. You may thereafter show cause to the Court on the day that may subsequently be specified as to why delay in filing SLPs be not condoned and Special Leave Petition and interim relief as prayed be not granted and the resultant appeal be not allowed. Take Further Notice that the prayer for interim relief after notice will also be listed before the Court in due course.

You may file your affidavit in opposition to the petition as provided under Rule 14(1) of Order XXI, S.C.R.2013 within 30 days from the date of receipt of notice or not later than 2 weeks before the date appointed for hearing, whichever be earlier, but shall do so only by setting out the grounds in opposition to the questions of law or grounds set out in the SLPs and may produce such pleadings and documents filed before the Court/Tribunal against whose order the SLPs is filed and shall also set out the grounds for not granting interim order or for vacating interim order if already granted.

TAKE FURTHER NOTICE that if you fail to enter appearance as aforesaid, no further notice shall be given to you even after the grant of special leave for hearing of the resultant appeal and the matter above mentioned shall be disposed of in your absence.

Sd/-
Dated: 04th April, 2024 **ASSISTANT REGISTRAR**

Infrastructure Minister pushes for new airport in growing Bengaluru

In light of Bengaluru's rapid growth as a global metropolitan city, M.B. Patil, the Minister for Infrastructure Development, held a discussion on Thursday regarding the construction of a second airport for the city. Minister Patil noted that Bengaluru International Airport is the third busiest airport in the country, following Delhi and Mumbai. Last year, the airport handled 37.5 million passengers and over 400,000 tonnes of cargo. He emphasised that a second airport is needed to efficiently manage the expected increase in both passenger traffic and freight in the coming years.

The Devanahalli airport contract prohibits new airports within a 150-kilometre radius until 2033. With nine years left, the Minister emphasises the urgency to begin preparations now. Patil explained that the current airport is projected to reach its peak passenger handling capacity by 2033 and its maximum cargo handling capacity by 2040. Considering that land acquisition and compensation for landowners take a significant amount of time, Patil underscored the necessity to begin work instantly. **— BMB**

Traffic police must use clamps to curb violations, say citizens

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

A pedestrian told BM the traffic police should not misplace or misuse the wheel clamps. "Instead of locking the vehicles parked at no-parking zones on Dr BR Ambedkar Road, the traffic police have kept the wheel clamps around the street light poles. This would convey a wrong message to motorists," said the pedestrian.

Satish Rao, a social worker from Indiranagar, described the situation as ironic. "It is possible that this may have been kept in this location on a temporary basis due to some valid reasons. However, irrespective of the reasons, this shows the Traffic Police in a very poor light. Imagine what would go through the mind of a parking violator who was just penalised and his vehicle clamped. He would be angry and laughing at the same time, looking at the irony of the situation," said Rao.

Stating that these clamps have seen better days and use, Vinod Jacob, a citizen activist, said the traffic police should use this for the proper purpose. "There are so many traffic violations on the roads and parking at no-parking zones is rampant on main roads. We need better traffic regulations on the roads one parking in busy roads and junctions should be stopped. Parking in no parking area, one-way riding, no entry, riding on footpath, reckless driving, jumping signal, lane discipline and others -- we have so many issues to regulate rather than clamping street poles," said Vinod Jacob.

When contacted, Cubbon Park Traffic Police said the clamps are used to lock the vehicles damaged in road accidents. "I will ask my subordinates to remove the clamps kept around the street light poles," a traffic police officer said.

Police custody extended for Darshan

A Bengaluru court extended the police custody of Kannada actor Darshan Thoogudeepa and three others by two days in connection with the Renukaswamy murder case. The other three individuals are Dhanaraj, Vinay, and Pradosh.

In addition to these four, thirteen other accused, including the actor's partner Pavithra Gowda, have been placed in judicial custody for 14 days.

This brings the total number of accused in the murder case to 17. All the suspects were presented before Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Judge Vishwanath C Goudar, as their initial period of police custody concluded on Thursday.

Former Indian cricketer dies after falling from balcony

Former Indian cricketer David Johnson passed away on Thursday after a fall from his fourth-floor apartment in Bengaluru. He was 52 years old.

Police are investigating the incident, with initial suspicion leaning towards suicide. However, an official statement is still pending. Johnson reportedly fell from the balcony of his apartment at SLV Paradise. Though rushed to the hospital immediately, he succumbed to his injuries.

The preliminary investigation suggests that Johnson might have been battling depression. Kothanur police are currently handling the case.

According to authorities, Johnson had been facing health issues for the past year and had recently spent a week hospitalised.

Tributes poured in from the cricketing fraternity. Former Indian cricketer Anil Kumble expressed his grief: "Saddened to hear of the passing of my cricketing colleague David Johnson. Heartfelt condolences to his family. Gone too soon, 'Benny'!"

Johnson, a former fast bowler, had a brief stint with the Indian national team. He played two Tests for India in 1996, claiming three wickets. In domestic cricket, he was a force to be reckoned with, taking 125 wickets for Karnataka in his 39 first-class appearances. Notably, he achieved a career-best bowling speed of 157.8 km/h during a Test match against Australia. Born on October 16, 1971, in Arsikere town of Hassan district in Karnataka, Johnson's passing leaves a void in the cricketing world.

984 traffic cases registered

In response to a surge in road accidents and traffic violations, the Traffic West Division launched a special drive on June 19 targeting reckless driving behaviours. Following numerous complaints from the public and social media, the traffic police registered a total of 984 cases across various offences. The crackdown included 113 cases against drivers going the wrong way on one-way streets, 602 for driving without headlights, 78 for illegal parking, and 191 for not wearing seat belts.

The operation not only involved registering violations but also focused on educating motorists about the importance of adhering to traffic rules. This initiative aims to enhance road safety and reduce accidents in the city.

Record beer sales boost excise revenue

As State considers liquor tax increase, prices could rise by 7-8% across categories

Sridhar.Vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

The excise department recorded unprecedented sales of beer in April and May. April witnessed a historic high as 48.72 lakh boxes were sold, amounting to 3.80 crore litres of beer, setting a new record for the department. Surpassing this feat, May saw a staggering 50.71 lakh boxes sold, equivalent to 3.95 crore litres, marking a remarkable 30.63 per cent surge in sales compared to the previous year. This surge in sales translated into a substantial revenue increase for the excise department. The total revenue collected during April-May 2024 amounted to Rs 5449.80 crore, reflecting a notable growth of Rs 534.21 crore compared to the same period last year, showcasing a 30.63 per cent rise in revenue.

Furthermore, the sales of Indian Made Foreign Liquor (IMFL) also witnessed an uptick compared to the previous year. April 2023 saw 52.90 lakh cartons of IMFL sold, whereas April 2024 recorded 54.46 lakh boxes, indicating a 2.95 per cent increase. Similarly, May 2023 witnessed 62.35 lakh boxes sold, while May 2024 saw 63.81 lakh cartons sold.

Experts attribute the spike in beer sales in May to the soaring temperatures and heightened demand during the second phase of the Lok Sabha elections on May 7.

Liquor prices may go up further

As the current state government grapples with the challenge of raising funds to meet its five guarantees, sources suggest that the government is considering increasing taxes on Indian Manufactured Liquor (IML).

In comparison to neighbouring states such as Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and Maharashtra, certain liquor price categories are lower in Karnataka. Karnataka's liquor prices are divided into 18 categories based on brand. The government earns up to 75 per cent of its liquor revenue from the first to fifth categories. Semi-premium liquors, classified in the sixth to twelfth categories, contribute 20 per cent of the revenue, while premium foreign brands in the thirteenth to eighteenth categories account for 5 per cent.

Sources indicate that the excise department is planning to increase the prices of liquor in the second to fifth categories by 7 to 8 per cent. For example, the first category, currently priced at Rs 63.14, may see a slight increase. The second category, priced at Rs 80, might rise by Rs 5, the third category at Rs 99.50 could increase to Rs 105, and the fourth category at Rs 122.50 may go up to Rs 130.

IML prices were last increased in July 2023, and there has been no revision since. Officials now believe that Karnataka's liquor prices should align with those in neighbouring states. Although this adjustment was announced in the budget, it was postponed due to the Lok Sabha elections. Once the model code of conduct ends, the prices are expected to rise.

Beer prices have gone up by Rs 40 as the Siddaramaiah government has already increased beer prices three times. Yet, sales have surged significantly. The sales of beer have gone up by 28.8 per cent in April 2024 compared to April 2023. The same trend continued as, till May 11, beer sales went up by 56.1 per cent compared to the first 11 days of May 2023. Excise officials said that the demand had exceeded expectations and supply due to high summer temperatures.

R Laxman, who is in the liquor business, said, "I can say this summer has been extraordinary in terms of beer sales. We've seen a remarkable spike, with customers coming in more frequently and purchasing larger quantities. It's clear that the scorching temperatures are driving people to seek refreshing options, and beer fits the bill perfectly. While there has been an increase in excise duty on IML, the beer duty has only seen a minor hike. Our shelves are being cleared out faster than ever. It's not just the regular brands that are selling out; even the premium and imported brands are seeing higher sales."

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Deadlines over, but potholes remain forever

BBMP blames rain for delays, launches PACE app to streamline repairs and accountability

Sridhar.Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

Despite setting a self-imposed deadline of June 4, the city is still plagued by potholes. Citizens complain that the Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) has often fallen short in addressing the issue, with many potholes remaining unfilled or reappearing shortly after repairs. The inefficiency in the repair process and frequent delays have resulted in a persistent problem that severely impacts the city's infrastructure. The lack of proper quality control and accountability has only worsened the situation, leaving commuters frustrated and endangered by hazardous road conditions.

Officials blame the recent rainfall for exacerbating the issue, increasing the number and severity of potholes across the city. The monsoon season has exposed the inadequacies in the road maintenance system, as many repaired potholes have quickly deteriorated, leading to dangerous driving conditions. The heavy rains have not only worsened existing potholes but also created new ones, compounding the problem. This recurring cycle of damage and inadequate repair highlights the urgent need for a more effective and sustainable solution to Bengaluru's pothole crisis.

However, BBMP officials say they will soon launch a new app called PACE (Pothole And Civic Enforcement) to streamline the reporting of potholes. Bengaluru has a vast network of 14,000 km of roads, including 470 km of sub-arterial and arterial roads, with the remaining 12,529 km comprising ward roads. Despite spending crores annually on road development, these roads often deteriorate significantly during the monsoon season.

The city has witnessed numerous deaths related to potholes, highlighting BBMP's repeated failure to address the issue adequately. Until now, citizens have been able to lodge complaints via the Fix My Street app, although it has faced criticism for its ineffectiveness. Recognising this, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced the launch of the new PACE app. Expected to be unveiled soon by the Minister for Urban Development and Deputy Chief Minister, the PACE app aims to enable citizens to report potholes more efficiently and improve the overall road maintenance system.

Potholes have worsened due to the rain in many areas

> **The app sets deadlines for each stage of the process, from reporting a pothole to resolving the complaint**
> –BS Prahlad, Chief Engineer of Road Infrastructure, BBMP

BS Prahlad, Chief Engineer of Road Infrastructure at BBMP, said, "The PACE app enables citizens to report potholes by downloading the app on their mobile phones and uploading photos of the potholes. Engineers will then assign the repair tasks to contractors, who will upload photos of the fixed potholes once the repairs are completed. Citizens who report the issue will receive a notification upon resolution, ensuring that potholes are addressed promptly. The app sets deadlines for each stage of the process, from reporting a pothole to resolving the complaint. If the deadline is exceeded, the complaint is automatically escalated to higher authorities. The PACE app also allows for action against contractors who delay repairs. Initially, potholes are being filled successfully, and in the second phase, a cold mix is used for repairs. The dual purpose of roads for vehicular traffic and essential infrastructure services can contribute to an increase in potholes."

He also added that the PACE app features an automated billing system. "Contractors do not need to submit separate bills for their work; all details are recorded in the app, and payments are processed automatically. This technology-driven approach ensures a seamless process from reporting a pothole to its repair and payment."

HC blocks Iraqi national's entry over visa violations

Attempts to alter name, tamper visa, and dubious medical claims fail as court upholds blacklisted status

The High Court of Karnataka has blocked efforts by an Iraqi national to gain entry into India, citing visa violations and his blacklisted status.

Sagad Kareem Ismael had allegedly altered the spelling of his name, tampered with his visa sticker, and made questionable claims of needing medical treatment to circumvent his blacklisted status for overstaying during previous visits.

The 33-year-old from Iraq's capital, Baghdad, had filed a petition through his "special power of attorney holder," Muntandher Ahmed, from India. He sought a directive to the Ministry of External Affairs to grant him a visa for medical treatment as per his February 2024 application.

Justice M Nagaprasanna, noting Ismael's repeated attempts to re-enter India despite his blacklisted status for overstaying, dismissed the petition, deeming the medical treatment claim as "dubious."

Ismael first arrived in Bengaluru in 2012 to pursue a pharmacy course but overstayed his visa by 11 months, leading to his blacklisting until May 2019. Despite futile attempts to return during the blacklisted period, he was allowed back twice on medical visas but again overstayed, resulting in further blacklisting.

In 2020, he filed a petition challenging the visa rejection, but it remained unresolved due to improper filing. In an effort to re-enter India, Ismael allegedly altered the spelling of his name and obtained a new passport, alongside a medical certificate from a Baghdad hospital recommending treatment in Bengaluru.

However, his visa application was rejected due to his blacklisted status. He then executed a special power of attorney in favour of the 22-year-old Ahmed to file the present petition, which the court found invalid in India.

The court also advised the Foreigners' Regional Registration Office to scrutinise hospital recommendations for medical visas more carefully. **–PTI**

K'taka okays Centre's proposal on continuation of mining activities

The Karnataka cabinet on Thursday approved a Union government proposal to continue mining activities on 13 tailing dumps belonging to Bharat Gold Mines Limited in Kolar district. Simultaneously, the cabinet sought the transfer of 2,330 acres of land from the defunct company for a proposed industrial township.

Briefing reporters after the cabinet meeting, Law and Parliamentary Affairs Minister H K Patil stated, "Special permission from the state government is required as per the MMDR Act, and the cabinet has granted its approval."

He elaborated, "The cabinet has approved the central government's proposal to continue mining activities on 1,003.4 acres within the inactive mining area of Bharat Gold Mines Limited at KGF in Kolar district, under Section 17 of the MMDR (Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Amendment) Act."

Patil emphasised that commencing mining operations in these tailing dumps would naturally create job opportunities. He highlighted that the state government has already requested 2,330 acres of land from the Centre for establishing an industrial township in the region.

Regarding financial matters, Patil noted, "BGML owes Karnataka Rs 75,24,88,025 as arrears till 2022-23. We will request the Government of India to settle this amount, or they may propose an exchange in kind considering our land request."

Meanwhile, the cabinet authorised Chief Minister Siddaramaiah to finalise the dates for the upcoming monsoon session of the state legislature, expected to span two weeks.

In a move to honour national icons, the government mandated the display of portraits of both BR Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi during Constitution Day, Independence Day, and Republic Day celebrations across the state.

Furthermore, the cabinet granted in-principle approval to designate 33 units of the Directorate of Civil Rights Enforcement as "special police stations" to handle cases of SC/ST atrocities. Discussions also covered the approval of 450 posts for managing these units effectively.

Addressing issues faced by universities in the state, the cabinet authorised the Chief Minister to form a sub-committee. Patil explained,

"During discussions on allocating Rs 279 crore to six universities, concerns were raised about vacancies in established universities, as well as salary, pension issues, and technological development. The cabinet has tasked the Chief Minister to form a sub-committee to address these challenges." **–PTI**

Minister demands CBI probe into NEET row

Sharan Prakash Patil calls test biggest scam under NDA government

Karnataka Minister for Medical Education Sharan Prakash Patil on Thursday demanded a probe by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) into the NEET controversy.

"The NEET is the biggest scam under the NDA government," he alleged. Speaking to reporters at Vidhana Soudha here, Minister Patil demanded that the Supreme Court should initiate action in this regard as otherwise, there is a possibility of students staging a country-wide agitation.

He stated that youths are suspicious about the NEET examination. The 24 lakh students, who took the NEET exam, are concerned. The Supreme Court had also given directions regarding initiating action in this matter. "Youths are facing injustice with the NEET," he said. "The Central government cancelled the National Eligibility Test (NET) on Wednesday night. It is playing with the careers of the nation's youth. The NEET scandal should be probed by the CBI. If the youths are to get justice, the CBI should investigate the matter," Minister Patil said. "Why is the Central government not initiating action in this regard? This is an anti-youth stance. We don't know whom the Central government is trying to protect," he stated. When asked about the state government mulling over cancelling the NEET exam in the state, Minister Patil said, "There is no provision in the law to cancel the NEET exam in the state. There is a legal hurdle if the state wants to invalidate it. The Supreme Court, under which the legislation in this regard is formed, should initiate action."

Students stage a protest over the NEET-UG and UGC-NET examinations issue outside the Shastri Bhawan in New Delhi on Thursday

> **"This is an anti-youth stance. We don't know whom the Central Government is trying to protect**
>
> – Sharan Prakash Patil, Medical Education Minister

UGC-NET fiasco

Opposition leaders on Thursday launched an attack on the National Testing Agency (NTA) after the UGC-NET exam was cancelled and accused the agency as well as the Union government of destroying the future of students who appeared for these exams.

The UGC cancelled the UGC-NET examination on Wednesday, a day after it was held, after receiving certain inputs from the National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the ministry of home affairs on the examination. Trinamool Congress (TMC) MP Saket Gokhale said the examination process in the country has crashed and the lives of students are being destroyed. He accused the NTA of being complicit. "The examination process structure of our country has crashed. Paper leaks and irregularities are rampant and the useless NTA is complicit in it," Gokhale said in a post on X. "After the NEET fiasco, the UGC-NET has now been cancelled - literally 1 day after students wrote the exam. The lives and futures of our students are being destroyed everyday and the NDA 1.0 govt is shameless to even take responsibility," he said.

The TMC MP said Prime Minister Narendra Modi has not learnt any lesson from the elections, and demanded that Dharmendra Pradhan be sacked. "Incompetent education minister Dharmendra Pradhan has been repeated again despite being an utter failure," he added.

Communist Party of India (Marxist), in a post on X, accused the government of making a mockery of the education system. "First there were discrepancies in CUET, then the NEET Scam, and now UGC-NET was cancelled! The BJP govt has made a complete mockery of the education system," the CPI(M) said.

– Agencies

Supreme Court greenlights Ballari Road widening

Approval of land use from Palace Grounds paves way for essential road upgrades, easing chronic traffic congestion. After legal delays in land acquisition, project will now gain new momentum

After over ten years of delays, the widening of Ballari Road has finally begun. The Supreme Court has authorised the government to use 15 acres and 17 gunthas of land from the Palace grounds to proceed with the project. This decision lifts the previous stay on the land acquisition and allows the government to move forward, providing much-needed relief to residents enduring severe traffic congestion. The project, including the widening of Jayamahal Road, had been stalled due to legal challenges. Although the government had previously acquired the necessary land, the royals had contested this in court, resulting in a prolonged stay. Now, with the Supreme Court's approval, the project can advance further.

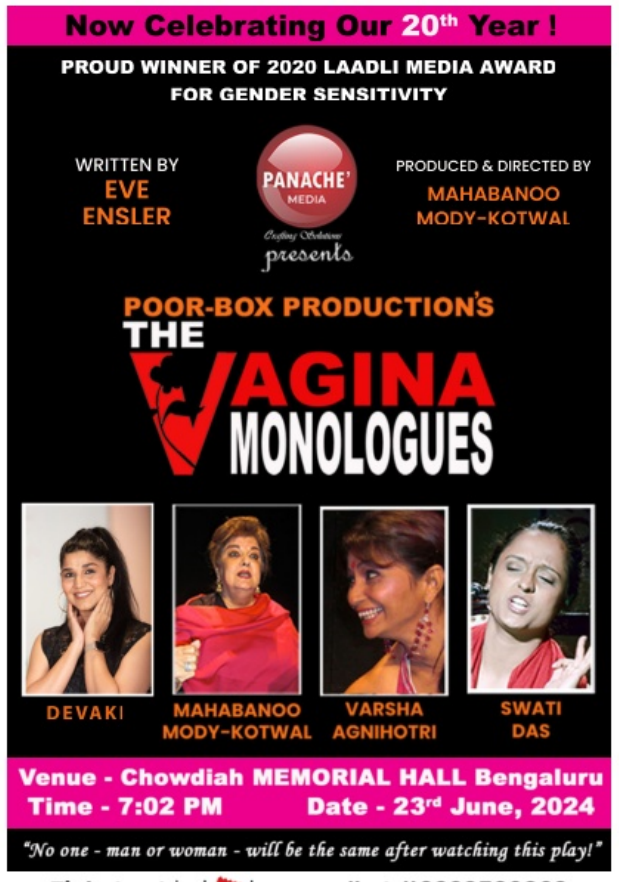
The Rajajinagar Samarpana Cultural and Social Organisation had petitioned the court to push the government to widen the road, leading to this recent development. Additional Advocate General (AAG) Pratima Honnapura represented the government, affirming the Supreme Court's decision to use the land for the project. The court accepted this submission and dismissed the petition, paving the way for the long-awaited road expansion. This development promises significant improvement in traffic flow and connectivity to the international airport, greatly benefiting the local population.

Despite these advancements, the actual commencement of the road widening has been mired in bureaucratic delays. The government has not yet received the formal court order, prompting the court to adjourn the hearing to a later date. Government lawyers have stated, "We have not received the court order yet and are still examining the matter." The judges expressed their displeasure at the delays, stressing, "This is a Supreme Court order. How can you delay it further? The people are suffering due to the traffic congestion on this road every day."

The court has been hearing this case for a long time, with repeated delays from the government side. The court warned, "We will not tolerate any further delay. You must comply with the Supreme Court's order and complete the project as soon as possible." Petitioner G.R. Mohan underscored the urgency, arguing that the government and BBMP have been neglecting the Supreme Court's directive, leading to daily inconvenience for the public. The court's insistence on immediate action reflects the critical need to address the ongoing traffic issues on Ballari Road on a priority basis. **— BMB**

HC Justice hears 600 cases in 1 day

On Tuesday, Justice M Nagaprasanna of the Karnataka High Court heard a massive total of 600 cases. All the cases were scheduled to be heard on the day and according to plan, the 600 cases were addressed by 3:56 pm. Of these, , interim orders were issued for 180 petitions and hearing of 87 cases was completed, and the cases were disposed of. It is to be noted that on March 22 this year, Justice M Nagaprasanna had heard 801 petitions in a single day. He had issued reserved judgments for 36 of them and disposed of close to 572 petitions. **— BMB**



PVR - INOX CINEMAS {DIRECTORS CUT, FORUM REX WALK, 12:50, 5:00 p.m. | NEXUS FORUM MALL, KORMANGALA, 10:50, 1:20, 7:15 p.m. | ORION MALL, YESHWANTPUR, 1:45, 10:00 p.m. | VAISHNAVI SAPPHIRE MALL, TUMKUR ROAD, 3:40, 9:30 p.m. | VEGA CITY MALL, 9:30, 3:40, 5:25, 10:00 p.m. | MSR REGALIA, 9:40, 3:40, 9:45 p.m. | PHOENIX MARKET CITY, K.R. PURAM, 2:20, 7:15 p.m. | BHARTIYA CITY, 10:50, 1:20, 7:00 p.m. | GT WORLD MALL, 11:00, 7:45 p.m. | SPIRIT MALL, 10:05 p.m. | VR MALL, WHITEFIELD ROAD, 10:10, 4:55, 10:15p.m. | GLOBAL MALL, NAYANDALLI, 3:55, 10:00 p.m. | VALUE NEIGHBOURHOOD MALL Whitefield, 1:20, 7:25 p.m. | AURA Whitefield, 10:30, 7:40 p.m. | SUPERPLEX FALCON CITY, 10:20, 1:30, 7:30 p.m. | OMR UPTOWN MALL, 11:30, 7:40, 9:50 p.m. | MANTRI MALL, 10:00, 3:10, 7:55 p.m. | CENTRAL MALL, J.P.NAGAR, 2:55, 7:35 p.m. | GARUDA MALL, 10:00, 2:40, 7:25 p.m. | LIDO, 10:15, 1:10, 5:50 p.m. | GALLERIA MALL, RMZ YELAHANKA, 11:55, 4:40, 9:50 p.m. | GARUDA, YELAHANKA, 10:15, 2:55, 7:35 p.m. | SBR HORIZON, SEEGEHALLI, 10:20, 1:10, 5:50, 10:30 p.m.} | CINEPOLIS CINEMAS {ROYAL MEENAKSHI MALL, 11:15, 1:35, 7:05, 9:25 p.m. | ETA MALL, BINNY MILL, 10:30, 12:55, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15 p.m. | EAST ORION MALL, 12:10, 4:45, 9:20 p.m. | SHANTINIKETAN, 10:15, 12:40, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30 p.m. | SJR SPECTRUM MALL, 10:30, 12:55, 8:00, 10:25 p.m. | LULU MALL (TRD), 10:00, 12:25, 5:25, 7:50 p.m. | LULU MALL (VIP), 2:50, 10:25 p.m.} | GOPALAN CINEMAS {ARCH MALL, 10:30, 7:30 p.m. | LEGACY MALL, 5:30, 9:45 p.m. | GRAND MALL, 9:45, 3:45, 7:45 p.m. | INNOVATION MALL, 11:00, 3:30, 8:00 p.m.} | INNOVATIVE {MARATHHALLI} | ABHINAY THEATRE {KG Road} | CINEPHILE {HSR LAYOUT, 12:10, 4:10 p.m.} | PVR - INOX CINEMAS {CENTRAL, MANIPAL, 2:55, 7:35 P.M. | CENTRO, 10:55, 4:50, 10:10 p.m. | S MALL, TUMKUR, 1:05, 5:20, 10:00 P.M.} | CINEPOLIS {CITY CENTRE MALL, MANGALORE, 10:30, 3:55, 9:20 p.m.} | BHARATH CINEMAS {MANGALORE, 11:15, 3:15, 8:15, 10:15 p.m. | MANIPAL, 4:00, 8:00 p.m. | SHIMOGA}.

FARNAZ

'Kids with or without disabilities should play in same park'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Bengaluru, built for children with disabilities by Mindtree and Bal Bhavan Society. It was built at a cost of Rs 3 crore, providing a safe and physiotherapeutic place for children with multiple forms of special abilities to play uninhibited by their mobility aids or the risk of accidents. However, it has experienced a low turnout since its inauguration due to varying reasons, including the lack of awareness regarding its existence among the disabled community.

Anita Iyer Narayan, a disability rights advocate, said that parks made exclusively for disabled children defeats the purpose of inclusion. "Play is informal socialisation and recreation where kids are not judged for their ability. If this is denied in public parks, it impacts interaction and learning of social skills, including communication and self confidence. It is seen that children ask questions without any filters of political correctness and are open to more real conversations. The park is the perfect place to encourage this," she said.

She further explained that the problem lies in adults imagining that there will be problems, that kids might offend or get offended, hurt or get hurt, that the equipment might be misused. "This will certainly happen as long as inclusion and inclusive spaces are a novelty. If all parks are inclusive and children with and without disabilities begin to play together, and be seen by adults, things will change," she said.

Iyer noted that while there are policies in place to ensure all public places are inclusive, bodies responsible for implementation often limit their thinking to schools, colleges, tourist spots, offices, government buildings, and forget other public spaces that allow informal social interaction. "The first place that a child learns to interact with peers freely is the park. Inclusion must begin here," she said.

Regarding the cost to manufacture and install inclusive equipment and other infrastructure, Iyer said, "It's the retrofitting that costs more but still not enough to ignore the benefits. I have installed inclusive play equipment in Pune, at two parks through my NGO. While the quality of equipment used for the first park, which was readily available, is dismal, for the second park, we had our own fabricators ensure quality and safety. It is not a burden at all. It's a win-win situation because we are investing in the future and ensuring that plans are not needed to sensitise the adults of tomorrow. This way, inclusion happens organically," she said.

"The whole ambience of parks can be designed to benefit children and adults physically and mentally. There are laughter clubs and yoga meets in parks. Everyone should be able to access these places and events without being excluded by design or omission," she concluded.

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I, Jessy Cheruvathoor Ouseph D/o Ouseph Chittalapalli Thomas Aged About 62 Years R/at No.12, Loganathan, 1st Cross, DNS Layout, TC Palya, B'luru 560036 have changed my name to Jessy Chittalapalli Ouseph Vide Affidavit dtd:19/06/2024 Sworn Before Notary Uday Kumar K, B'luru.

I, Balkaish Begum D/o Ghouse Moheddin R/a #728, ITC Road, 2nd cross, near wisdom school, Ramaswamy Palya, Kammana halli, Bengaluru- 560033 have changed my name to N Balkaish Begum vide affidavit dated 19.6.2024 before Notary K. Venkateshan, Bengaluru

I, Ravikumar Siddagangaiah Rangenhalli S/o Siddagangaiah R/o 145a, S.No.96 A B M North Residency, 6th Main Road, Arasinakunte, Hullegowdanahalli, Nelamangala, Bengaluru, have changed my name to Ravikumar Siddagangaiah.

I, Sudarsan Raju Mogalapu S/o Devadanam M. H No. 44-1-1/2, Madanasingh Peta, Opp. Jampet Market, Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh - 533103. I have changed my name to Sudarsana Raju Mogalapu for future purposes

I Ashwin Patil S/o Arunkumar Patil R/o No.12, FF-5, Krishna Enclave, 2nd cross, Nehru Nagar, Bengaluru 560020 have changed my name to Ashwin Arunkumar Patil(Ashwin A patil) Affidavit Dt.20 /06/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I Arun Chothiakadavil George S/O, Roy George R/o 1b Canary Court 9 Harris Road Benson Town Bangalore - 560046 have changed my name to Arun George.

I S Bharath Ram S/O, Sivaraman R/o Ulsoor, Bengaluru have changed my name to Bharathram Sivaraman.

I Hardik Maheshkumar Surti S/o Mahesh Surti R/o 1/139, Brahman Faliyu, A.K road, Fulpada, Surat- 395008 have changed my name to Hardik Mahesh Surti

I Ruhi Afza, R/a at No #G11, B Block, 1st Floor, RK Saniya Apartment, 12th cross, Pillanna Garden, 3rd Stage Bangalore-560045. I have changed my name to Ruhi Afza S. Vide Affidavit Dated on 16/06/2024 Sworn Before Notary Leela Bangalore

I Sujithkumar Padinjarayil Sukumaran S/O, Sukumaran Padinjarayil R/o A102 Ds Max Sigma, Gollahalli Main Road, Electronic City Phase 1, Bengaluru 560100 have changed my name to Sujithkumar Padinjare Puthenpurayil Sukumaran.

I, Karim Mohammed S/o Mohammed Ahamedulla R/o No.88, 36th cross, 6th main, 5th block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560041 have changed my name to Kariim Mohammed Affidavit 20/07/2024 notary Harisha G, B'luru

I, Pavankumar.KM R/o No 417, Sri Kanta Nilaya, 2nd Croos, Patalamma Layout, Kadugudi Plantation, Blr-67 changed my name Pavankumar. M to Pavankumar. KM for All Future Purposes

I, Kulandai Raj Naveen Daniel Raj S/o, Daniel Raj R/o No 204 2nd Floor Gk Green Garden Prakash Layout Horamavu Agara Bangalore 560043 have changed my name to Kulandai Raj Naveen for all purposes.

I, Dipti Sudhakarrao Choudhari D/o Sudhakarrao Nanaji Choudhari R/o C108, MJ Lifestyle Azaliya, Bengaluru have changed my name to Dipti Choudhari for all purposes.

I Swaroop Naik Vivek Venkatraman S/O, Vivek Naik R/o Amma A950/15 Chitragi Kumata, Uttara Kannada Pin: 581343, Karnataka, India have changed my name to Swaroop Naik Vivek.

I Bharat Kumar Goutamchand S/O, Goutamchand Raysoni R/o Flat-303, No.17, 3rd Floor, Blue Bells Apt, Middle School Road, V V Puram, Bengaluru - 560004 have changed my name to Bharat Kumar.

I Ajith S/O, Bandappa Wali R/o 1006, Srinivasa Vaibhav, 26th Cross, 3rd Sector, Hsr Layout, Bengaluru-560102 have changed my name to Ajith Wali.

LOST & FOUND

I Dheeraj Kumar b h/no 335/69 8th block Jayanagar banglore - 72 have lost my class 10th pass certificate year 2020 unique id 7219006 ICSE Board FIR No. 1102978/2024. School name sharada residential school Udupi 576102

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HEALTH TIP: It has been found that each hour increases in outdoor activity per day had a protective effect on the progression of Myopia

As you age, taking Vitamin D and calcium can help improve bone health, and if needed, your doctor can test your bone density

KEEP WALKING

Walking can prevent low back pain, a new study shows

Do you suffer from low back pain that recurs regularly? If you do, you're not alone. Roughly 70% of people who recover from an episode of low back pain will experience a new episode in the following year.

The recurrent nature of low back pain is a major contributor to the enormous burden low back pain places on individuals and the health-care system.

In our new study, published today in The Lancet, we found that a program combining walking and education can effectively reduce the recurrence of low back pain.

The WalkBack trial

We randomly assigned 701 adults who had recently recovered from an episode of low back pain to receive an individualised walking program and education (intervention), or to a no treatment group (control).

Participants in the intervention group were guided by physiotherapists across six sessions, over a six-month period. In the first, third and fifth sessions, the physiotherapist helped each participant to develop a personalised and progressive walking program that was realistic and tailored to their specific needs and preferences.

The remaining sessions were short check-ins (typically less than 15 minutes) to monitor progress and troubleshoot any potential barriers to engagement with the walking program. Due to the COVID pandemic, most participants received the entire intervention via telehealth, using video consultations and phone calls.

The program was designed to be manageable, with a target of five walks per week of roughly 30 minutes daily by the end of the six-month program. Participants were also encouraged to continue walking independently after the program.

Importantly, the walking program was combined with education provided by the physiotherapists during the six sessions. This education aimed to give people a better understanding of pain, reduce fear associated with exercise and movement, and give people the confidence to self-manage any minor recurrences if they occurred.

People in the control group received no preventative treatment or education. This reflects what typically occurs after people recover from an episode of low back pain and are discharged from care.

What the results showed

We monitored the participants monthly from the time they were enrolled in the study, for up to three years, to collect information about any new recurrences of low back pain they may have experienced. We also asked participants to report on any costs related to their back pain, including time off work and the use of health-care services.

The intervention reduced the risk of a recurrence of low back pain that limited daily activity by 28%, while the recurrence of low back pain leading participants to seek care from a health professional decreased by 43%.

Participants who received the intervention had a longer average period before they had a recurrence, with a median of 208 days pain-free, compared to 112 days in the control group.

Overall, we also found this intervention to be cost-effective. The biggest savings came from less work absenteeism and less health service use (such as physiotherapy and massage) among the intervention group.

This trial, like all studies, had some limitations to consider. Although we tried to recruit a wide sample, we found that most participants were female, aged between 43 and 66, and were generally well educated. This may limit the extent to which we can generalise our findings.

Also, in this trial, we used physiotherapists who were up-skilled in health coaching. So we don't know whether the intervention would achieve the same impact if it were to be delivered by other clinicians.

Walking has multiple benefits

We've all heard the saying that "prevention is better than a cure" – and it's true. But this approach has been largely neglected when it comes to low back pain. Almost all previous studies have focused on treating episodes of pain, not preventing future back pain.

A limited number of small studies have shown that exercise and education can help prevent low back pain. However, most of these studies focused on exercises that are not accessible to everyone due to factors such as high cost, complexity, and the need for supervision from health-care or fitness professionals.

On the other hand, walking is a free, accessible way to exercise, including for people in rural and remote areas with limited access to health care. Walking also delivers many other health benefits, including better heart health, improved mood and sleep quality, and reduced risk of several chronic diseases.

While walking is not everyone's favourite form of exercise, the intervention was well-received by most people in our study. Participants reported that the additional general health benefits contributed to their ongoing motivation to continue the walking program independently.

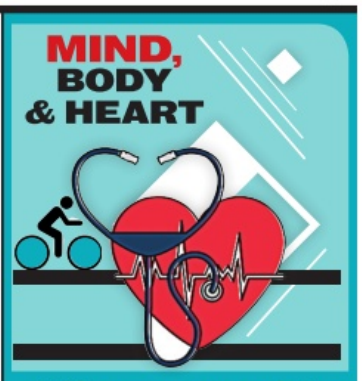
Why is walking helpful for low back pain?

We don't know exactly why walking is effective for preventing back pain, but possible reasons could include the combination of gentle movements, loading and strengthening of the spinal structures and muscles. It also could be related to relaxation and stress relief, and the release of "feel-good" endorphins, which block pain signals between your body and brain – essentially turning down the dial on pain.

It's possible that other accessible and low-cost forms of exercise, such as swimming, may also be effective in preventing back pain, but surprisingly, no studies have investigated this.

Preventing low back pain is not easy. But these findings give us hope that we are getting closer to a solution, one step at a time.

(By Christine Lin, University of Sydney, Tash Pocovi, Mark Hancock, Petra Graham and Simon French, Macquarie University, The Conversation)



All you need to know about...

Top heat safety tips

Time to be active
People love their routines, but you need to get the workout and yard work and other outdoor activities done early in the day or late in the evening. Avoiding the hottest parts of the day is the smartest way to prevent heat illnesses. When outside and the Sun is up, seek places with shade.

Hydration habits
Don't ignore thirst – it's your body telling you something. Hydration keeps your plasma volume higher to help your heart work less and decreases your overall risk for heat illnesses. Your brain and muscles are also composed of water, so if your body senses that you don't have enough water, it will start to sacrifice other things, including how much you're sweating.

Listen to your body
When you do need to be outside to work or play, your body will give you cues regarding how it's handling the heat. If you don't feel well, feel hot or can't seem to push harder, your body is telling you to slow down, add extra breaks or get out of the situation.

Smart clothing choices
Wear light-coloured clothing, which absorbs less heat than dark clothes. Short-sleeved shirts and shorts can also avoid helping heat build up.

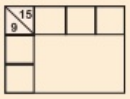
Helmets and sports equipment hold in heat
There is a push for companies to follow health safety guidelines, such as providing cooling stations and hydration breaks.

Sleep well
Heat exposure one day can affect your risk the following day. If you can sleep in air conditioning and get a good night's sleep, that may help decrease the risk of heat illness.

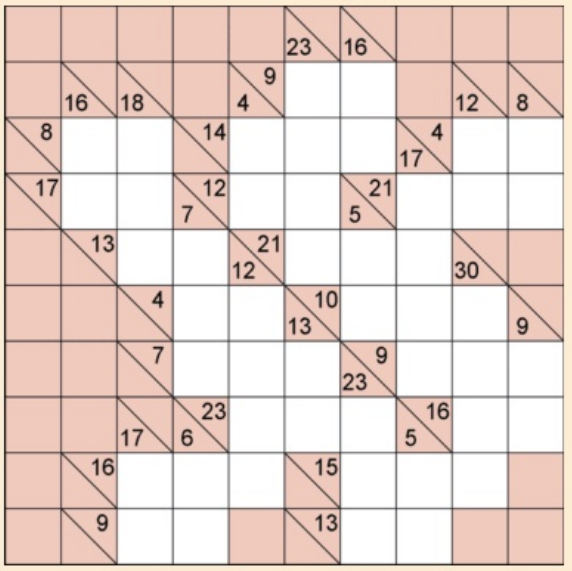
—Susan Yeargin, The Conversation

Kakuro

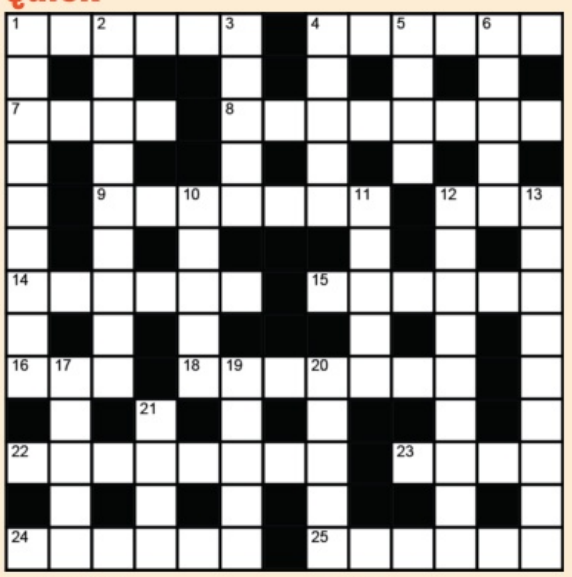
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Least risky (6)
4 Dwell or stay (6)
7 Copied (4)
8 All people (5,3)
9 Excavate (7)
12 Comparative ending? (3)
14 Pork curry (6)
15 Merges or brings together (6)
16 Vinyl (3)
18 Cheat (7)
22 Member of a major political party (US) (8)
23 Tablet (4)
24 Commences (6)
25 Pulled or tugged sharply (6)

DOWN

1 Is he the apple of his teacher's eye? (4,5)
2 Visits often (9)
3 Greek letter (5)
4 Mr. Butler of Gone With the Wind (5)
5 Sauce you'd find in a Chinese restaurant (4)
6 Slow student (5)
10 Community spirit (5)
11 Sharpened by whetting (5)
12 Enjoying very best of health (2,3,4)
13 Looked like, was similar to (9)
17 Morsel (5)
19 Merchandise (5)
20 Crazy or slightly eccentric (5)
21 Local headgear ? (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: V EQUALS L

OZA FGDAN OG YQAROEGI ER OZA PXRER GL XVV ZQCXI FNGJNARR.

Linemaro

Are you religious? Good. Because I am the answer to your prayers

Mindchow

Winners lose more than losers; they also win more, because they stay in the game

Joke of the day

I visited the office of the SPCA this morning; it is so small, you couldn't swing a cat in there

Loop

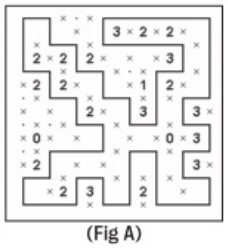
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

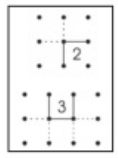
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

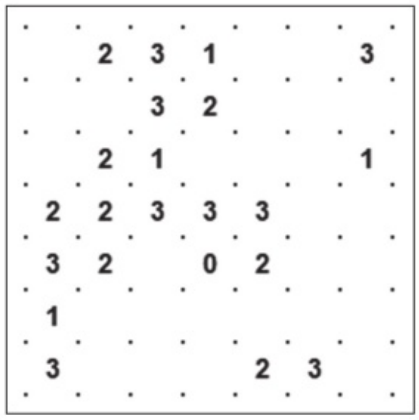
Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



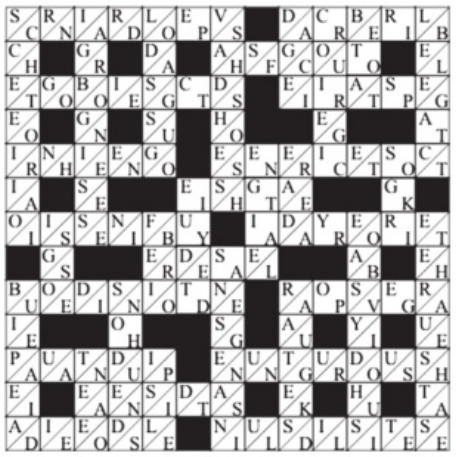
(Fig A)



(Fig B) Not Allowed



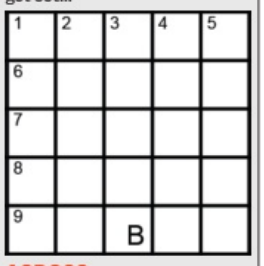
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

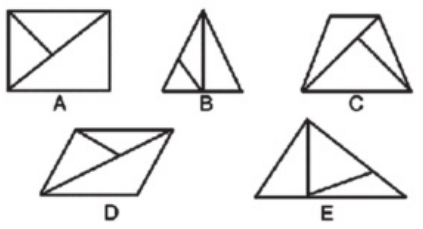
1 Apter; 6 Remix; 7 Lu Tee; 8 Rains; 9 Tabus

DOWN

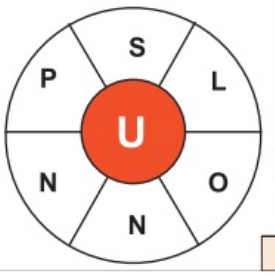
1 Meant; 2 Pauli; 3 Rubex; 4 Irate; 5 Rests

Mensapuzzle

One of the following figures lacks a basic feature the other four figures have. Which figure is the odd one out?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

06 Average; 07 Good; 09 Outstanding

SudokuChallenge

	5	6		2	3			
						3		9
	8	7	6					2
7			1	8		9		4
4		8		7	9			3
2					5	6	9	
8		5						
			3	1		4	8	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

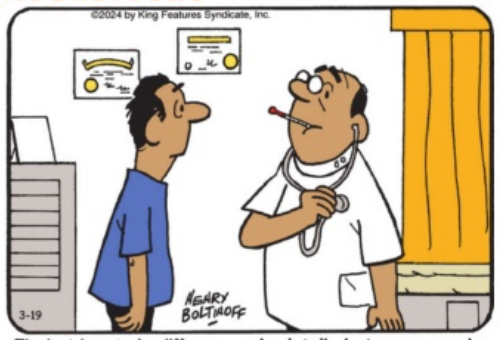
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 4
1 4 6 7

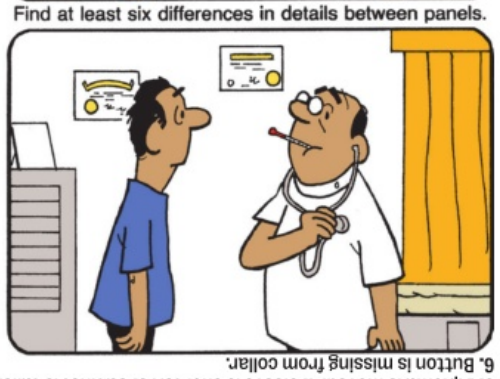
Medium = 1
1 4 6 8

Hard = 19
3 9 9 4

Hocusfocus



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



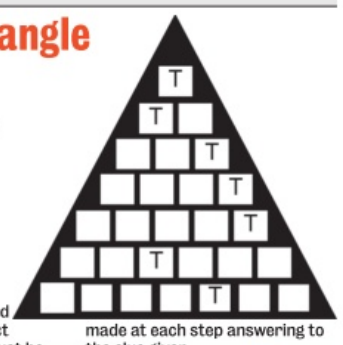
Differences: 1. Pocket is missing. 2. Man is taller. 3. Diploma is moved. 4. Sleeve is shorter. 5. Cabinet is taller. 6. Button is missing from collar.

Riddler

What phrase is illustrated below?
You're having a good time
= Time Airways is cleared for takeoff
You're having a bad time
= Time Airways is Delayed

Alpha triangle

1 20th letter
2 Infinitive word
3 Decay
4 Thorough defeat
5 Woo
6 Clamour
7 Nation



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Popeye

Bizarrotrip

In theory, an infinite number of them could write the works of Herman Melville.
Wayno & Piraro 3-19-24
Dist. by King Features
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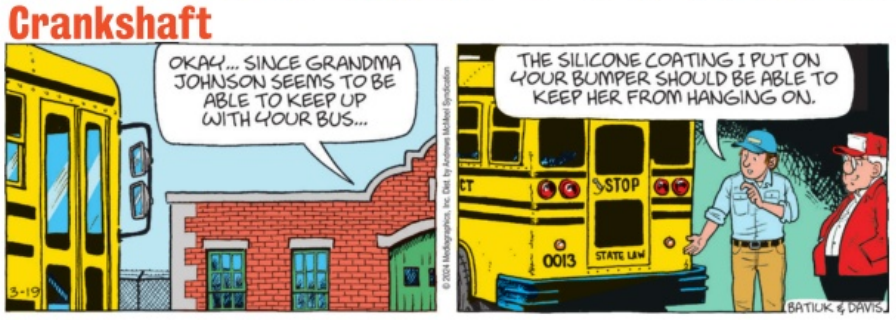
©2024 Bizarro Simons

Diamond Lil

Hart of the city

THE "AMERICAN NINJA WARRIOR" CREW IS HERE, GETTING B-ROLL!
ANOTHER CHANCE FOR THE WORLD TO KNOW MY NAME!
HOW ARE THEY GONNA KNOW YOUR NAME FROM B-ROLL?
I MADE THIS LAST NIGHT!
MY NAME IS HEART AND I WANNA BE ON TV
SUBTLE.
HEART OF THE CITY © 2024 AMBERMAC MCNEEL
@COMICS.COM/HEARTOFTHECITY

Crankshaft


OKAY... SINCE GRANDMA JOHNSON SEEMS TO BE ABLE TO KEEP UP WITH YOUR BUS...
THE SILICONE COATING I PUT ON YOUR BUMPER SHOULD BE ABLE TO KEEP HER FROM HANGING ON.
STOP
0013
STATE LAW
3-19
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts

WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today is important for your work. You may expect to get a big order, which may increase your business. Your willpower may have improved now; you are likely to make some difficult business decisions very easily. Your staff is supportive of you in implementing your project successfully. With the help of wisdom, you may control your opponents.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you are likely to meet an influential person, and with their help, you may expect good growth in your business or work. Your destiny may help you; your losses are now converted into profits. Financial health may be on track now. Lovebirds are advised to make some important decisions in terms of marriage. Singles are likely to find a soulmate.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may expect to get into a strong position after some struggle. You may plan for an overseas professional trip as well. Students must focus on their careers. To improve your lifestyle, you may buy some artefacts for the house or office. You may also plan to donate to a religious place or to a charity.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may feel dull and may have some health issues. Old debts may make you upset. You will be a victim of self-criticism, and you will feel guilty for silly mistakes as well. It is advised to avoid adventure tours and rush-hour driving. Your stubbornness may create some issues in your personal life.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, the moon may help you improve your inner strength. You are likely to get some new opportunities for your business, which will pay you in terms of gains in the near future. Couples may hear good news in terms of childbirth. Lovebirds can make some important decisions in their lives, but they are advised to be clear in their opinions with each other to make their future bright.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today is a good day. Things are now under control; your performance may be praised by your seniors, and you may expect promotions. Money that was stuck is likely to be recovered now, which may help increase liquidity in the business. There may be some good news in terms of legal matters too. In partnerships, many issues may be settled now.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today, you may hear good news in terms of an occupation. Job seekers may be focused on cracking entrance exams with the help of hard work. Singles may get engaged to their soulmate. You may also hear some good news in terms of childbirth.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today, you may plan for a change in place, but it is advised to postpone the decision related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investing in business. By late evening, the situation may be under control. With the help of good advice from one of the elders, you may control the messy situation.

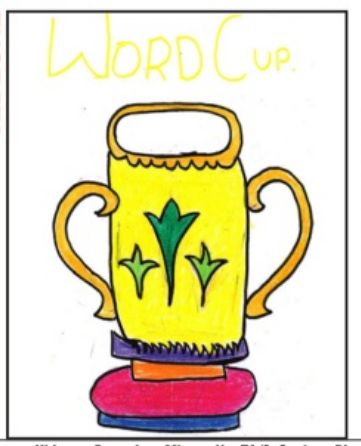
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, you may expect some short business trips. You may also expect to get some rewards for your success in your domain. Your respect for those around you may increase. You may hear some good news from your siblings. Job seekers who are seeking management jobs may find success. Singles are likely to get engaged.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today, you are blessed by your elders. New sources of income will likely be opened, which will boost your bank balance. You may also plan to renovate your house. You may get a big order, which can grow your family business. Be patient while signing any contract. There may be some movement in your business; delayed projects will start again.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today is a good day. You are blessed by Jupiter, and your wisdom may help you come out of difficult situations. You may also help needy people and give your opinion to your family or friends, which may increase your prestige among them. You may have some differences of opinion with your spouse, which may affect your domestic life.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today, you may be a victim of mood swings, and you may feel dull. Your health is not okay; it affects your day-to-day routine. You are advised to avoid rash driving and adventure tours. You may also spend on worthless things, which may affect your financial health.

KIDZONE



V Priya Balangoudar, 11 Years, Hari Vidyalaya School, Mysore

Ananya Vastare, 10 Years, Insight Academy

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru-560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
= (−3−2)³+5³
= (−5)³ +5³
= −125+125 = 0

BULL'S EYE
NONPLUS, noun, onus, opus, plus, soul, soup, spun, upon

FAST FIVE

A	P	E	R	T
M	I	X	E	R
E	L	U	T	E
N	A	R	I	S
T	U	B	A	S

QUOTE UNCODE
The power to question is the basis of all human progress.

STRIKE OUT

D	I	O	D	E	■	N	U	D	I	S	T	S		
E	■	A	N	I	T	A	■	E	U	■	T			
P	U	T	U	P	■	E	N	G	R	O	S	S		
I	■	O	■	G	■	A	■	I	■	U				
B	E	D	S	I	D	E	■	R	O	V	E	R		
I	■	S	■	R	E	A	L	■	B	■	H			
O	S	S	I	F	Y	■	A	D	R	O	I	T		
I	■	E	■	E	S	T	E	■	K	■				
R	H	I	N	O	■	E	R	I	E	S	T			
E	N	S	■	H	■	G	■	A						
E	G	O	I	S	T	S	■	E	R	A	S	E		
H	■	G	■	A	S	C	O	T	■	L				
C	R	A	D	L	E	S	■	A	C	E	R	B		

QUICK

B	E	G	I	N	S	■	Y	A	N	K	E	D		
C	■	P	■	E	■	T	■	N	■	E				
D	E	M	O	C	R	A	T	■	P	I	L	L		
I	■	T	■	A	■	U	■	P	■	B				
L	P	S	■	S	W	I	N	D	L	E	■	M		
I	■	T	■	O	■	E	■	H	■	E				
P	A	N	D	H	I	■	U	N	I	T	E	S		
P	■	U	N	E	A	R	T	H	■	I	E	R		
R	O	■	T	■	T	■	A	■	C					
A	P	E	D	■	E	V	E	R	Y	O	N	E		
T	■	R	■	H	■	O	■	U						
S	A	F	E	S	T	■	R	E	S	I	D	E		

RIDDLER
Time flies when you're having fun

MENSA PUZZLE
The answer is D. It is the only figure that doesn't have a 90 degree angle.

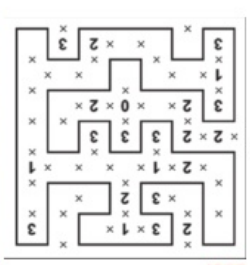
SUDOKU

9	5	6	4	2	3	7	1	8
1	2	4	7	5	8	3	6	9
3	8	7	6	9	1	5	4	2
7	3	2	1	8	6	9	5	4
4	6	8	5	7	9	1	2	3
2	1	3	8	4	5	6	9	7
8	4	5	9	6	7	2	3	1
6	7	9	3	1	2	4	8	5

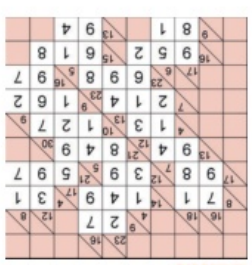
ALPHA TRIANGLE
T, TO, ROT, ROUT, COURT, OUTCRY, COUNTRY.

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 − 6 − 1 + 7 = 4
Medium
4 + 8 / 6 − 1 = 1
Hard
9 + 9 − 3 + 4 = 19

LOOP



KAKURO



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 # Last brunch
Priyanka Chopra Jonas' former NY restaurant Sona to shut down almost a year after she stepped away

WHAT'S THE GLOW?

Among all her accessories, mom-to-be Deepika wears her radiant smile the best

Deepika Padukone, the reigning queen of Bollywood, recently turned heads at the Mumbai pre-release event for the upcoming sci-fi epic Kalki 2898 AD. The actress, who is expecting her first child with husband Ranveer Singh, embraced her baby bump with radiant confidence.

Deepika Padukone, who has rarely been seen in public since her pregnancy, made a stylish appearance at the event in a simple yet stunning black outfit, looking radiant and in good spirits. When two of the biggest superstars in Indian cinema share a stage, you

can't help but watch and admire. Prabhas kept his casual, low-key style with a simple long tee, faded black jeans, and his signature yellow-tinted shades. Amitabh Bachchan looked youthful in a black hoodie, cargo pants, and red rimmed glasses.

Padukone opted for a stunning Loewe Anagram Pebble Dress, a choice that accentuated her growing figure with elegance. The dress complemented her exquisite Cartier jewelry of Rs. 1.16 crore , which included a trio of diamond bracelets. The most captivating piece was the Panthère de Cartier bracelet, crafted from 18K white gold and adorned with dazzling emeralds and diamonds, reportedly valued at a staggering Rs 53,50,000.

The Juste un Clou bracelet and a Panthère de Cartier bracelet in rose gold completed her ensemble, showcasing her affinity for timeless luxury pieces. Deepika's radiant smile and effortless elegance left a lasting impression, solidifying her status as a fashion icon both on and offscreen.

'Kalki 2898 AD' is director Nag Ashwin's third film, following 'Yevade Subramanyam' and 'Mahanati'. All three films have been produced by Swapna Dutt and Aswini C Dutt under the Vyjayanthi Movies banner. In addition to Prabhas, Deepika Padukone, and Amitabh Bachchan, the film features Kamal Haasan, Disha Patani, Shobana, Pasupathy, and others in key roles.

— ETimes

Alia on her on-screen brother

Alia Bhatt is one of the top actresses in Bollywood today. The National Award winner is appreciated and adored for her acting skills and the dedication with which she does every film. The actor, who was last seen in Karan Johar's directorial 'Rocky Aur Rani Kii Prem Kahaani' and 'Heart of Stone', will next be seen in 'Jigra' co-starring Vedang Raina, which is directed by Vasan Bala.

In an interview with News18, Alia spilled some details about the upcoming movie. "It is releasing on October 11, and what I can tell you about it is that it is releasing on October 11, 2024 (laughs). I had a wonderful time working with Vasan Bala. I have such fond memories of working with him, and we are still working on it because post-production is ongoing. He has got the perfect balance

of cool and nostalgia," the actress said.

The film also marks her first collaboration with newbie Vedang Raina. When asked how it was working with the Archies actor, she said, "Vedang is just sublime. He plays my brother in the film. I am not going to say much about the relationship we share in the film, but I can definitely say that we had a very seamless, easy-going work relationship."

Alia is also set for a spy thriller with Yash Raj Films in the famous 'Spy-verse'.

—ETimes

Where was Matthew McConaughey?

Matthew McConaughey, known for his charismatic roles and southern drawl, recently shared insights into a pivotal period of his career when he took a two-year hiatus from Hollywood. In an interview obtained by E! News, McConaughey revealed that his decision to step away was driven by a desire to break free from the rom-com stereotype that had come to define his early career.

During his rom-com years, which included hits like 'How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days' and 'Failure to Launch,' McConaughey found himself boxed into a specific type of leading man role. "I wanted to try some other stuff," he explained but struggled to find opportunities outside of the romantic comedy genre.

Frustrated by the industry's expectations,

McConaughey made the bold choice to leave Hollywood altogether. "It was scary," McConaughey confessed, reflecting on the uncertainty of that period. He considered alternative career paths such as teaching high school or becoming a wildlife guide. However, with the support and counsel of his wife, Camila Alves McConaughey, he persevered through this existential crisis about his career direction. "I honestly thought, 'I stepped out of Hollywood. I got out of my lane.'

—ANI

SANDALWOOD SHOTS

Y MAHESWARA REDDY

Party hangover

A few directors made short films on Yenne Party (Cocktail Party) and it was a hit. Now, a Kannada feature movie is in the making with a similar title – Yenne Party. Its muhurat function was held at a temple on Friday. Bharath L, who handled the megaphone for Dvandva, is directing the movie in association with Dhananjay Nagaraj.

"The movie's shooting has already begun. The shooting of the movie is being held in and around Bengaluru, Dabaspet, Nelamangala," said Bharath.

The director said the movie is about how people behave after getting high during cocktail parties. "Love is a universal subject and consuming alcohol is also universal. I am a teetotaler but attend cocktail parties with friends. I notice how some introverts become extroverts after getting high. It is a comedy and murder mystery movie," the director said.

Father & son bond

Well-known writer and director Malavalli Saikrishna makes a comeback to Sandalwood after a long gap. Saikrishna will direct the movie Raakha. Its muhurat function was held at Sri Kanteerava Studios. Minister for Backward Classes Welfare Shivaraj S Tangadi sounded the clapboard while Sarojini Revannasiddappa switched on the camera. Dr Nagoor Babu from Bijapur is bankrolling the movie under the Shiva Movies banner.

"I watched the Kranthi-starrer Srimantha and liked his acting skills. The movie is about the bonding between a father and his son. I expect this movie to solve conflicts between fathers and their children in society. I decided to bankroll it to convey a message to society," said Dr Nagoor Babu.

Saikrishna said the producer approached him to write dialogues for this movie and later insisted he direct the movie. "The producer has no intention to make money from this movie. The movie narrates how a father struggles to educate his son and how the son treats his father," said director Saikrishna.

He said they plan to shoot for 20 days in and around Bijapur and 20 days in and around Bengaluru.